

Kuwait to continue aid to Iraq despite pressures

By Rory Channing
Rover

KUWAIT — Kuwait faces increasing pressure from Iran to end support for its Gulf war enemy Iraq, but diplomats here expect the aid to Baghdad to continue.

Tehran five days ago said Kuwait support for Iraq was as good as a declaration of war and left Iraq free to detain Kuwait-bound vessels near the Iranian coast. Iranian gunboats stopped six ships this month to check cargo bound for Iraq.

"We can't have friendly relations with someone who helps our enemy," said Kamal Kharrazi, head of Iran's War Information Headquarters.

Diplomats estimate Kuwait has given Iraq around \$10 billion worth of aid since the war began five years ago. Other Gulf states, particularly Saudi Arabia, have also contributed heavily.

The diplomats expect the aid to continue, and this could herald an increasingly hostile reaction from Iran. They said officials had privately voiced fears that Iran might eventually try to isolate Kuwaiti ports.

But the diplomats believed Iran would stop short of trying to draw Kuwait into military confrontation. "Iran has always claimed to be the victim of aggression in this war and would steer clear of

overtly appearing an aggressor," one said.

Iraq has warned Iran that any hostile action against Kuwait would be punished. "Kuwait's security is Iraq's security and Tehran rulers are mistaken in imagining they can achieve their evil and expansionist aims," the ruling Baath Party newspaper Al Thawra said.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Iranian gunboats stopped four Kuwaiti-flag ships this month in international waters in or near the Gulf and at least two more ships heading for Kuwait under other flags have been detained and searched.

Iraq's checks have not been confined to cargo trade, according to shipping sources, who say Kuwaiti oil tankers have been challenged by Iranian gunboats near the strategic Hormuz Strait, southern gateway to the Gulf.

But by keeping to Omani waters — and forcefully pointing this out in encounters with the Iranians — they managed to avoid serious

trouble, the sources said.

Kuwait's Foreign Ministry last week called in ambassadors of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and United States — and asked them to try to have the ship searches stopped.

But diplomats question whether Kuwait will raise the matter in the United Nations itself given the failure of a Security Council resolution in May 1984 condemning Iranian attacks on tankers, some of them owned by Kuwait.

The attacks, in retaliation against Iraqi strikes on ships used for Iranian oil exports, were seen here as an attempt to discourage Kuwait and the other Gulf states from aiding Iraq.

Kuwait also says Iran was behind a series of bomb attacks that rocked the French and U.S. embassies and other targets here, killing six people, in December 1983. Iran denied this.

One year later, four Arabs hijacked a Kuwaiti Airbus to Tehran, demanding the release of 17 people jailed in Kuwait for the 1983 bombings. Two American passengers were killed.

Iraq has accused Kuwait of deporting more than 1,000 Iranians since a failed car bomb attack on the Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, in which five people died last May.

Official silence persists two years after Gulf Air Boeing 737 crash

BAHRAIN (R) — Two years ago Monday a Gulf Air Boeing 737 crashed and exploded in the Abu Dhabi desert, killing all 111 people aboard in a disaster which has still not been officially explained.

An American official report on the crash was sent to authorities in Abu Dhabi, one of seven sheikhdoms making up the United Arab Emirates (UAE), more than a year ago but officials there say it has not been decided whether the findings will be released.

Aviation sources say the study, by the U.S. National Transport and Safety Board (NTSB), established that the plane was crippled by an explosion almost directly beneath the bulkhead between the flight deck and first class compartment.

The report did not identify whether the blast was inside or outside the aircraft. In the absence of official comment there has been widespread speculation that it was caused by a bomb in the forward baggage hold or by a surface-to-air (SAM) missile.

Informed sources say changes in the structure of the metal at the point of the explosion indicated a very high temperature blast unlikely to have been caused by a small bomb.

Asked last week about the possibility of the Boeing having been hit by a missile, Abu Dhabi officials refused to comment.

Diplomatic and aviation sources said the possibility could not be ruled out, noting Gulf forces had been involved in military exercises in the UAE shortly before the crash.

But they noted the aircraft was reportedly flying at 20,000 feet when the explosion took place, well above the normal ceiling of the UAE's Rapier, Crocodile and RBS-70 SAM missiles.

The NTSB and Gulf Air, which is owned by the governments of Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and Abu Dhabi, both say results of investigations into the disaster can only be released by the Abu Dhabi authorities.

A Boeing spokesman said shortly after the crash that the company was anxious that the results should be released, if only to vindicate itself. But another Boeing spokesman said here Sunday that

it was up to the governments involved.

Although Abu Dhabi officials said last year the findings would be released, the Civil Aviation Department now says its Chairman Ali Ibn Khalifa Al Dhahiri has not decided whether to make them public.

Another Abu Dhabi official, however, said it was up to Gulf Air to publish them. "We will announce nothing about this matter," Ministry of Communications Undersecretary Muhammad Yahya Al Suweidi told Reuters. "It is up to Gulf Air to do so."

All but 14 of the dead were Pakistanis, most returning to jobs in the Gulf after a Muslim holiday. The others were nine Britons, a Bahraini co-pilot and steward, the Omani pilot, an American and an Iranian.

Emir of Bahrain ends visit to New Zealand

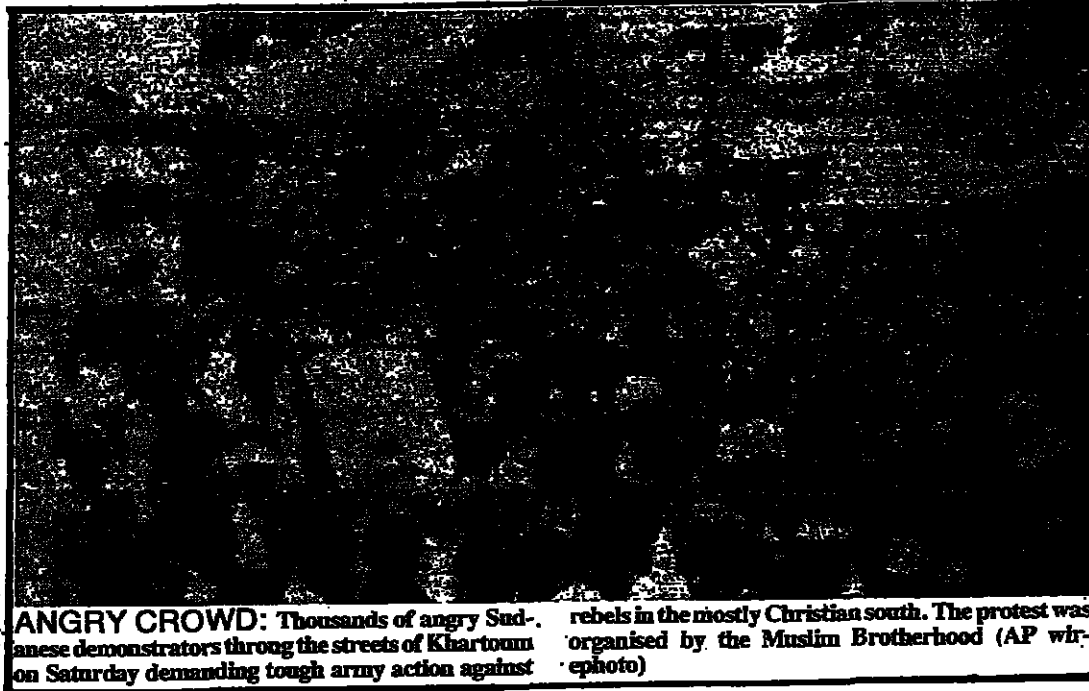
WELLINGTON (R) — The Emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa bin Sulman Al Khalifa, left New Zealand Monday after a seven-day state visit, the first by an Arab head of state.

He was flying to Australia on a private visit during which he was

expected to meet Prime Minister Bob Hawke.

In New Zealand he visited sheep, dairy and stud farms.

In talks with New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange, the Emir sought backing for efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war.



ANGRY CROWD: Thousands of angry Sudanese demonstrators through the streets of Khartoum on Saturday demanding tough army action against rebels in the mostly Christian south. The protest was organised by the Muslim Brotherhood (AP wirephoto)

Israelis demonstrate against Kahane

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Thousands of Israelis have demonstrated against anti-Arab Rabbi Meir Kahane, pelting his car with eggs and tomatoes and disrupting his speech with whistles and catcalls.

Kahane, elected to parliament on a platform calling for the expulsion of Arabs from Israel and the occupied territories, had to address several hundred of his followers from behind a cordon of police equipped with tear gas, shields, rubber bullets and other riot gear.

"Kahane will not speak here," said Mayor Yitzhak Aron of the nearby suburb of Givat Aron who organised a similar anti-Kahane demonstration last month.

Israelis have mounted counter-demonstrations at Kahane rallies in recent weeks to protest at what they term his racist policies.

A poll published Sunday in the independent Ha'aretz newspaper showed Kahane's militant Kach Party would win 3.2 per cent of the vote if new elections were held, compared with 9 per cent last month.

It was the first drop in Kahane's standing in opinion polls since he was elected to parliament a year ago.

Tel Aviv police Commander Gaby Amir said that 450 policemen guarded the rally. It was attended by less than a thousand Kach supporters and more than 10,000 anti-Kahane demonstrators including representatives from other right-wing parties. Many of the demonstrators shook rattles to drown out Kahane's speech.

Amir said violence was kept under control as police separated Kahane's supporters and opponents.

Kahane, who immigrated from Brooklyn, New York, in 1971, has become the country's most controversial politician.

U.K. church envoy to try to get release of hostages

LONDON (R) — A church envoy who helped win the release of four Britons from Libya earlier this year will try to get freed 11 hostages held in Lebanon, his office said Monday.

Terry Waite, aide to Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, was expected to fly to New York Monday to meet the Reverend Benjamin Weir, a U.S. missionary who was freed in Beirut just over a week ago after being held hostage for more than a year.

The Church of England office said Mr. Waite, a 45-year-old layman, was involved in negotiations which led to Rev. Weir's release. Rev. Weir has declined to identify his captors, but the Islamic Jihad (holy war) organisation claimed responsibility after his abduction in May 1984.

The 11 hostages still held by Shiite abductors are six Americans, four Frenchmen and a Briton, seized since March 1984. Rev. Weir said last week the cap-

tors of the six Americans had threatened to kill them if Washington did not press for the release of 17 Arabs in jail in Kuwait.

Israel to sell planes to Argentina

NEW YORK (AP) — Israel has agreed to sell an advanced AWACS-type aircraft to Argentina that would enable the South American country to pinpoint radar installations, track ships and monitor air battles. Newsweek magazine reported Sunday. The magazine, said Israel was angered by Britain's recent decision to sell 48 Tornado fighters and 30 Hawk trainer jets to Saudi Arabia. Reports said last week that Britain had asked the U.S. to pressure Israel not to sell military equipment to Argentina, which fought a war with the United Kingdom over the Falkland Islands in 1982.

Israel says 2 commandos killed in attack

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli troops shot and killed two men in its self-declared "security zone" in Lebanon during the night, the military command announced in a communique on Monday.

The communique said that Israeli troops noticed two armed men northwest of the village of Hasbiya, at least 16 kilometres north of the Israeli border.

The announcement said that the troops opened fire and later found two bodies, next to which were rifles, grenades, undefined sabotage equipment and backpacks.

Israeli troops mounted a seven-hour air and land operation against resistance men in the "security zone" last Saturday in an attempt to prevent rocket attacks against settlements.

Springer's death may herald change in W. German media support of Israel

BONN (R) — The death of publisher Axel Springer has robbed West Germany of one of its most powerful opinion-makers and raised the question whether his media empire will remain loyal to his right-wing and pro-Israeli views.

Springer, who died on Sunday aged 73, maintained tight personal control over Western Europe's biggest newspaper and magazine conglomerate and ensured that all his publications adhered rigidly to a stringent editorial line.

As the firm's directors met in Hamburg on Monday to decide a new leadership structure, most commentators predicted it would be run by senior business executives who were close to Springer.

But it seemed unlikely that any individual or group could have the same authority and influence on editorial policy as the man who built up the company from scratch after World War II.

Iranian oil exports reportedly halved after raid on Kharg

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran's oil export capability of 1.6 million barrels per day was halved by last week's Iraqi air raid on the Kharg Island oil export terminal, an oil journal reported Monday.

The raid resulted in at least the temporary halt of exports from the main sea island jetty on the western (seaward) side of the island, reported the weekly Middle East Economic Survey (MEES).

But the older T-jetty, on the eastern, landward side continues to be operational, MEES added.

The extent of the damage to the sea island, or "H" jetty, and the time needed for repair is still not clear, MEES said.

"In any case, the general impression is that the damage may be quite serious and repairs — likely to be hampered by further Iraqi raids — difficult to accomplish," MEES said.

"When the sea island suffered fire damage as a result of an earlier Iraqi strike in June 1984, it was back in operation within a week or two. This time the recovery may not be so rapid."

MEES said the sea island jetty has four berths, two capable of handling tankers of up to 500,000 tons and two designed for vessels of up to 350,000 tons.

In contrast, the older T-jetty can only take vessels of up to 250,000 tons at three berths, one of which was damaged in an Iraqi air raid on Aug. 15, reported.

The T-jetty "is currently operational to the extent of two berths with a combined loading rate of some 5,000 tons an hour." This would make it capable of handling only about half of Kharg's current export level of some 1.6 million barrels per day, MEES added.

MEES said the effect on Iranian exports from the latest attack on Kharg may not show up immediately. This was because Kharg is currently only the initial supply point for a tanker shuttle service to the out-of-danger offshore loading terminal at Sirri Island near the Strait of Hormuz, MEES added.

Iran has six leased supertankers to shuttle oil between Kharg and Sirri.

Iran claims seized Danish freighter carrying arms

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — The Danish freighter "Arnold Maersk," seized by Iran in the Strait of Hormuz, is reported to be carrying military hardware for Iraq, the official Iranian News Agency (IRNA) said Monday.

Iran announced on Sunday its navy had seized the 31,560-ton ship in the strait, at the southern entrance to the Gulf, and escorted it to a southern Iranian port to be searched.

IRNA, monitored here, said Monday that the Iranian Navy had not yet inspected the entire contents of the more than 1,000 containers in the ship but many of the

items were labelled "military."

The ship, which apparently set off from Singapore, was on its way to Kuwait with a stop at the Saudi port of Dammam, IRNA said. It added that the cargo of the ship was to be forwarded to Iraq after unloading in a Kuwait port.

An Iranian Navy official told IRNA that the captain of the ship had refused to present a bill of lading to the Iranian Navy on arrival in the strait on Sunday.

The unidentified official said all the items related to military hardware would be confiscated and the ship would then be allowed to sail on with the rest of the cargo.

Commentators here have said Springer's influence helped to shape West Germany's Middle East policies and that fear of censure by his newspapers was a factor in the refusal of successive governments to sell arms to Arab states.

West European diplomats said that it was hard to imagine that the unified editorial line on foreign policy would be maintained now Springer was gone.

"It seems more probable that editors will allow their way to a less uncritical attitude towards Israel. This could have a significant influence on West German policy," one said.

If editorial control is relaxed, it could cause headaches for Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats, who have enjoyed Springer support since the 1950s.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 77111-19	BBC WORLD SERVICE 639, 720, 1413 KHz
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Home news

Majali presents paper to Arab police conference

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan has presented a working paper to a conference of Arab police chiefs which opened in Tunis Monday. The paper contained a study, recommendations and proposals related to crime and its prevention in the Arab World.

The paper was submitted by Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali, director of the Public Security Department, who was elected chairman of the three-day conference.

The working paper tackled moral crimes, juvenile delinquency and ways of protecting children, women and old people from crimes. The paper also called for better ties between national police departments and public institutions and modernising Arab police system, and also urged Arab governments to introduce police squads specialised in tourism and capable of handling issues involving foreign visitors.

The participants will discuss the dangers of terrorist organisations and sabotage activities of certain groups operating in foreign countries and threatening the Arab Nation. Also on the agenda is the topic of recruiting and training Arab police forces to combat crimes of all kinds.

The conference's resolutions and recommendations are expected to be referred to the Arab Interior Ministers Council when it convenes in Casablanca on Dec. 2.

GUVS to handle donations for Sudanese drought victims

AMMAN (Petra) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Jordan has announced its readiness to receive financial and in-kind contributions or donations destined for victims of drought and famine in Sudan.

A statement, issued in response to appeals by the National Jordanian Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese People, said that contributions to help alleviate the sufferings of the Sudanese people will be handled by GUVS headquarters in Amman.

A report in the local Arabic daily newspaper Al Ra'i said that a medical team will leave for Sudan soon to help extend relief to refugees and drought victims. The team, to be led by Dr. Anwar Bilal, will meet Sudanese officials to find out about the country's need for medicine and medical equipment and will also make field trips to study the present situation. The report quoted Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh as saying that the team will report back to the Health Ministry which will then assess the types of medical supplies needed by Sudan and the staff to be sent to the drought-afflicted country.

The Jordanian National Committee has been issuing appeals to the public requesting contributions to aid the Sudanese people and sub-committees have been formed in all governorates to launch the fund-raising campaign throughout the country.

The national committee has been informed by the Ministry of Awqaf and the University of Jordan about a decision that their staff will donate one day's pay towards helping the Sudanese drought and famine victims.

UNICEF delegation continues discussions on water projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Under Secretary Awwad Al Tal Monday received a delegation representing the Canadian Committee for the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), currently on a 10-day visit to Jordan.

Head of the 14-member delegation, Cynthia Hermans told the

Jordan Times that discussions during the meeting focused on the scope of cooperation between Jordan and the Canadian commission with regard to financing potable water supply programmes and sanitation projects in the Kingdom.

Later Monday, the delegation toured the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea region.



Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib (left) Monday opens a symposium on extractive industries at the Professional Associations Complex (Petra photo)

Fayez briefs Bulgarian deputy on peace efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — Lower House of Parliament Speaker Akaf Al Fayez Monday conferred with the visiting president of the Bulgarian-Jordanian Friendship Society and member of the Bulgarian People's Assembly Slav Hristov Karaslov.

Mr. Fayez briefed the Bulgarian guest on Jordanian efforts which aim to find a just and durable solution to the Palestinian issue through an international peace conference to be attended by the five permanent member countries of the U.N. security council and all parties concerned in the conflict. Mr. Fayez also expressed hope that the Eastern bloc will support Jordan's efforts in this respect.

During the meeting the two sides reviewed existing political, economic and cultural relations between the two countries and ways of further strengthening these relations. Mr. Karaslov expressed his country's support for a just and durable settlement to the Palestinian problem.

Yarmouk, Canadian university sign cooperation agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — Yarmouk University Monday signed an agreement with McGill University in Montreal, Canada, to launch bilateral cooperation in education-related affairs and to exchange visiting professors who will give lectures on a variety of subjects.

Under the agreement, signed at the Yarmouk University Liaison Office in Amman, both sides will cooperate in holding seminars and McGill University will accept a number of Yarmouk University teachers for post graduate studies

and to conduct scientific research at the Canadian university.

The agreement also provides for the exchange of visits by students from both universities and for the exchange of publications and researches, especially in medical and engineering fields.

The agreement was signed by Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran and Dr. Musa Kamal who coordinates cooperation programmes between McGill University and Arab universities.

Gabonese minister concludes visit, talks on Islamic teaching

AMMAN (J.T.) — Gabonese Minister of Islamic Affairs Mohammed Biutsa Monday rounded up a three-day visit to Jordan and left for home.

On the last day of his visit, Mr. Biutsa met again with Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat to discuss cooperation between Jordan and Gabon in affairs related to the teaching of Islam in Gabon and prospects of dispatching Jordanian

teachers to teach Arabic in the country.

The two ministers opened talks on bilateral cooperation on Sunday. The Gabonese minister voiced his appreciation for Jordan's readiness to extend help to Gabon.

During his visit Mr. Biutsa also met with Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri with whom he discussed Gabonese-Jordanian ties.

Regent receives Arab engineers Khatib opens AEU symposium on extractive, heavy industries

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday met with heads of delegations who took part in a meeting of the Arab Engineers Union (AEU) which concluded its discussions Sunday.

At the meeting, held at the Royal Court, Prince Hassan stressed the importance of coordinating work and cooperation among Arab engineers in order to confronting common challenges in the region. Prince Hassan urged the engineers to adopt plans to helping the Arab World absorb modern technology and to assist Arab countries in Arabising technical terms to facilitate the work of researchers and planners. The meeting was attended by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid.

The AEU which concluded sessions at the Professional Associations Complex in Amman, issued an appeal to Arab engineers to extend a helping hand to their colleagues in the occupied Arab territories.

The AEU is also taking part in a symposium on extractive industries which was opened Monday by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib who called on the Arab World to rationalise energy consumption and to find effective means for handling problems impeding the extractive industries.

Dr. Khatib, who deputised for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan at the symposium's opening session, said that by the year 2000 most oil-producing countries, except for the Soviet Union and some countries in the Middle East, will witness a considerable depletion in their petroleum reserves. He said that the world now has an estimated oil reserve of 700 billion barrels and half of this amount is in Arab countries. However, proper management should be adopted to rationalise its use because of the dire need for energy in the future, he added.

Referring to Jordan's endeavours in the extractive industries, the minister said that nearly \$1.5 billion have been invested in the country's extractive ind-

ustries over the past 10 years in the cement, potash and phosphate industries. The extractive sector, play an essential role in bolstering the economies of Arab countries but markets should be found for such industries and better facilities should be found for transporting extracted cement, phosphate and potash to reduce shipment costs, Mr. Khatib said.

He went on to say that modern technology and Arab expertise should be employed in promoting the marketing and sales of Arab extractive products abroad.

The opening session was addressed by Mr. Ibrahim Abu Ayyash, president of the Jordanian Engineers Association who said that the symposium was part of preparations by the Arab Engineers Union (AEU) for convening a general conference of Arab engineers in Amman in May 1986.

He said that mineral wealth in the Arab World forms the essential element in the economies of Arab countries and that it also helps Arab countries to achieve economic integration. The AEU encourages the flow of capital among Arab countries and cooperation among Arab states, especially between Arab Common Market members, Mr. Abu Ayyash said.

He said that the two-day symposium will review a number of working papers on extractive industries in Jordan, focusing on the phosphate, fertiliser, potash and cement industries, and that it will also discuss the implementation of earlier recommendations and resolutions issued by the AEU on industrial engineering subjects.

Earlier, Mr. Mohammad Bilhaj, the AEU's secretary general, addressed the audience and referred to industrial development as one of the most essential elements for achieving social and economic progress. He called on Arab countries to give due attention to industrialisation and coordination in this respect.

Mr. Bilhaj called for the establishment of a specialised Arab organisation which would supervise the coordination of research and the exchange of knowledge and information among Arab states and between the Arab World and developed countries.

The Arab World's annual technology-related contracts with developed nations amount to nearly \$110 billion and this forms almost 46 per cent of the total Gross National Product in Arab countries, he continued. This represents a real danger to Arab security in general and to Arab industrial and food security in particular and it is also a challenge to Arab economic development programmes, Mr. Bilhaj said.

The symposium which is being held at the Professional Associations Complex has been organised by the AEU in cooperation with the Jordanian Engineers Association and is being attended by engineers from nearly all AEU member states. The symposium will be devoted to subjects pertaining to extractive industries in Jordan and Syria. It will also discuss related plans and requirements including manpower and raw materials in view of their importance to the national economy. Other subjects on the agenda are means of improving the manufacture of bricks and white cement and the social and economic effects of oil. Topics connected with the extraction and marketing of naphtha, from the Dead Sea and the utilisation of phosphates in the manufacture of phosphoric and sulphuric acids will also be reviewed.

Attending the session were Minister of Public Works Mahmoud Al Hawamdeh and representatives of concerned organisations.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Princess Basma opens children's library

ZARQA (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Basma Monday opened a children's library in Azraq built by the General Federation of Jordanian Women. The head of the federation office in Zarqa Ms. Zahr Al Shomari made a speech at the opening ceremony in which she outlined efforts made in cooperation with the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives to establish the children's library in Azraq. The opening ceremony was attended by the head of the local village council and a number of invited guests.

Khayyat confers with W. German envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat conferred at his office Monday with West German Ambassador to Jordan Herwig Bartels. They discussed cultural relations between West Germany and Jordan in general and cooperation between the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in West Germany regarding affairs of concern to Muslims living in West Germany. They also discussed West German help to the ministry to expand and modernise its printing press and prospects for cooperation between the Arab Jerusalem Awqaf office and the German Christian church in the holy city.

NRA team to visit U.S. oil shale firms

AMMAN (Petra) — A Natural Resources Authority (NRA) delegation will leave for the United States on Oct. 13 to benefit from the experience of American companies working in the field of exploiting oil shale and to familiarise themselves with the latest technology used by these companies. The authority hopes to use their experiences from the visit in studies on the extraction of oil from oil shale.

Ministry to attend AOAD meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture is to take part in the annual meeting of the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) programmes committee. The meeting will start in Khartoum, Sudan, on Sept. 28.

Court sentences narcotics dealer

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Saleh Salem Hamed to five-years imprisonment with hard labour for dealing in narcotics. The general military governor endorsed the sentence.

Hmoud leaves for conference on environmental protection

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Al Hmoud Monday left for Holland to take part in a conference on environment and development in Africa and the Middle East, due to open in the Hague Tuesday.

Mr. Hmoud, who is accompanied by an official delegation, said that he will submit two working papers on Jordan's experience on ways to conserve the environment and to protect water resources from pollution. The three-day conference, he

said, will tackle subjects pertaining to the role of environment laws in promoting agricultural development in African and Middle Eastern countries and means of controlling industrial pollution, initiating regional planning programmes and protecting water resources.

Haya Arts Centre extends its services to benefit more children

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The nine-year-old Haya Arts Centre has embarked on a new strategy to place its experience and expertise at the service of groups throughout the country who wish to establish children's centres in their own towns, villages or neighbourhoods.

Since it was established in 1977, the Haya Arts Centre has implemented a three-pronged strategy of building up services at the main centre in Shmeisani, establishing and operating a handful of other Haya centres throughout the country, and offering staff training and educational and recreational materials for children's centres run by other voluntary or municipal groups.

"We've trained many Jordanians to staff children's libraries and centres," Haya Arts Centre Director Nabil Sawalha said in an interview.

"We've also trained Bahrainis and will soon receive some United Arab Emirates nationals to train

It has become clear to us after nine years of operation that we can never hope to open and operate enough Haya centres ourselves to meet the needs of our children. We feel that we can best serve the children of Jordan by acting as a combination model children's centre and training facility for the people required to operate such centres throughout Jordan," Mr. Sawalha added.

To make this conceptual leap, and break through inherent administrative and financial constraints, the Haya Arts centre will join forces with, and come under the aegis of, the Al Noor Foundation that was formally established earlier this month.

The foundation is an umbrella organisation to help coordinate and raise funds for the many organisations and programmes that Her Majesty Queen Noor has founded, or for whom she acts as patron.

In a meeting with the Haya Arts Centre board of trustees in early July, Queen Noor agreed to become honorary president of the

Haya Arts Centre.

Children's activities (along with culture and social development) are one of the three main focal points of the new foundation, and the Haya Centre should play a pivotal role in promoting new children's centres throughout Jordan, notes Mrs. In'am Al Mufri, the former minister of social development. Now personal adviser to Queen Noor, Mrs. Mufri is a member of the board of trustees of Al Noor Foundation.

"We've noticed a great momentum for children's centres throughout the country," she said in an interview, "particularly backed by municipalities and voluntary or women's organisations. Many villages want a place for their children to learn while playing, but they don't know how to go about starting a centre."

This is where the Haya Centre should step in, in a rather bigger way than it has in the past, Mr. Sawalha says.

"The first thing we insist on, based on our experience, is that a children's centre must be located within a park or playground. Typically, we then ask the local group to provide a simple building of 10 x 15 metres, to house a small library and crafts areas. The Haya Centre would then equip the centre with its basic needs, train one or two people from the local community to operate it, and turn it over to the local group that will be in charge of the centre."

In a few instances where children's centres were set up in rented houses that did not have a park around them, such as at Salt and Ruseifa, the centre did not last long, partly because it did not have the added attraction of an outside play area.

The problem of allocating space for children's centres has been largely resolved after the previous government mandated that every village and city in the country must designate a piece of municipal land for a future children's park and centre. About two dozen such parks with children's centres are already operational throughout the country, of which only five are Haya Centres (in Shmeisani, Ashrafia, Kerak, Zerqa and Aqaba).

The link with the Al Noor Foundation will allow for lateral connections with other groups under the aegis of the foundation.

For example, a child development centre to be established at the University of Jordan, and a model toy library to be established with help from a Swedish voluntary group, will work closely with the Haya Centre and other voluntary groups catering to the needs of children.



Her Majesty Queen Noor meets children at the Ashrafiah Haya Arts Centre when she inaugurated the centre in 1982 (Petra photo)

Demand for children's centres is growing dramatically

"The demand from the community for children's centres is growing dramatically," says Mr. Sawalha. "Virtually every candidate in mayoralty elections includes in his platform a call for a children's centre, because the people want it, and deserve it."

"Play is a basic need for children that we as a country have only recently recognised," he adds. "For many years, our attention was focussed on meeting the most basic human needs, such as housing, education, health care, water and employment. The child has started to be taken seriously in Jordan today, and we and the other groups under the aegis of the Al Noor Foundation hope to play a catalytic role in bringing together the interest of the government, municipalities, and voluntary groups."

By coordinating the establishment, equipping and staffing of new children's centres through the Haya Centre, Mrs. Mufri says, the Al Noor Foundation will be able to better coordinate the many existing efforts by which Queen Noor assists and promotes such centres.

For example, the queen responded to a recent request by the mayor of Amman by taking responsibility for launching several children's centres in the capital area. Other centres have come to the queen requesting libraries or other facilities, which she has tried to meet by engaging the help of

private voluntary groups.

The hope is that local women's groups or other voluntary groups will take charge of financing and operating local children's centres, with the queen's foundation and the Haya Centre acting as catalysts to launch the centres.

Eventually, Mr. Sawalha says, Jordan should have a national association of groups working with children.

"In the long run, the most successful centres will be those that are managed by more than one local group, such as a municipality and a women's group, because such a joint community effort means one group can maintain the momentum if the other slackens off," Mr. Sawalha said.

Yet another possibility for the future is to have the Jordan Women's Federation take charge of children's centres throughout the country, because the federation has branches and active members in most cities and many large towns and villages, Mrs. Mufri said.

"We don't expect to provide children's centres everywhere at once," Mr. Sawalha notes. "Now that the government has assured that every community has a piece of land allocated for a children's park, our priority will be to start by fencing off a children's playground with some trees and outdoor facilities where the children can gather to play safely. There are many things that can be done without great cost in outdoor playgrounds, such as simple children's theatres, which children

take to naturally because they love to dance, sing and act. The next step would be to add a small library, coupled with an arts and crafts room, until it could be expanded into a full social centre."

During the past nine years, the Haya Arts Centre in Amman has experimented with a wide range of children's activities, available both to members (6-12 years of age) and schoolchildren who visit the centre during the day.

Among the activities the Shmeisani centre offers are a library, films, puppet theatre, classes in dance, gymnastics, music, tai-kwando, ballet, ceramics, and photography; arts and crafts (sculpture, ceramics, handicrafts, drawing, painting and toy-making); a children's driving and bicycling park where the children learn traffic regulations; a children's theatre and an outdoor children's playground.

A permanent children's museum and a planetarium are under construction, and should open later this year.

The main centre in Shmeisani will continue to experiment with new activities for children, and act as a model centre where supervisors of children's centres in other parts of the country can come for short training courses. Supervisors at other centres already come to the Shmeisani centre to learn from its experience, in some cases making video tapes of successful activities that are then offered in other parts of the country.

Iron Age culture flourished at Tell Deir Alla

Tell Deir Alla in the Jordan Valley has been excavated for the last 25 years. Rami Khouri, an author of two archaeology books, who specialises in the archaeology of Jordan/Palestine, examines the findings of the excavation. Following is part two of a three-part series of articles on the dig.

The "metal workers" culture disappeared from Tell Deir Alla around 1150 B.C. after a brief presence there of some 50 years. For the next four or five hundred years, the site is inhabited by settled villagers whose culture shows few changes over that period.

They built a walled town with rectangular mudbrick houses that were frequently remodelled and rebuilt. The settlement was destroyed several times by earthquakes or attacks, for there are clear traces of heavy fires. An unpaved street passed through the middle of the domestic quarters.

The Iron Age village probably had a temple or shrine on top of the tell, near whose remains the archaeologists discovered a rare inscription from the 8th century B.C. The inscription, written in red and black ink on a fragment of wall plaster, mentions a non-Israelite biblical prophet called "Balaam, son of Be'or". The inscription has been preserved and is on display at the Amman Archaeological Museum, as are the mysterious clay tablets.

The script is neither Aramaic nor Canaanite, but something in between that is related to Aramaic and also to the Ammonite script. Balaam is referred to as the "head authority" of the Deir Alla sanctuary, providing the best clue to the existence of an early Iron Age sanctuary that has not yet been found by the excavators.

Since 1967, excavations have shifted from the Late Bronze Age

sanctuary on the north side of the tell, to concentrate on the summit. They have uncovered nine separate levels of occupation, from the 9th century B.C. Iron Age village to the Medieval Islamic cemetery.

The Iron Age village seems to have had several crafts-working shops associated with the sanctuary, a common practice in the ancient Middle East. There was considerable evidence of weaving and dyeing activity on the site, and perhaps of other crafts as well. Dozens of loom weights have been retrieved from many rooms, and some mud brick-lined pits showed traces of different colours, suggesting they were used in dyeing fabric or other materials.

The likelihood is that a civilian farming settlement grew up around the sanctuary, which by the 8th century B.C. had enjoyed a history of hundreds of years as a holy spot. The economic base of the settlement in ancient times probably changed over time, during different periods relying on a combination of farming, livestock, trade, crafts, and the income that would have come as a result of the area's cultic function.

The latest excavations in 1982 and 1984 focussed on the summit, with the aim of learning more about the Iron Age village that flourished around 800 B.C. They uncovered a series of 15 small rooms, measuring around 3x4 or 4x5 metres each. They were all connected to form a single complex, used between 825-800 B.C.

All room walls were constructed of sun-dried mud bricks (some as large as 30 x 50 centimetres), with some still standing to a height of 1.5 metres. The roofs were made of reed mats, or wood and clay.

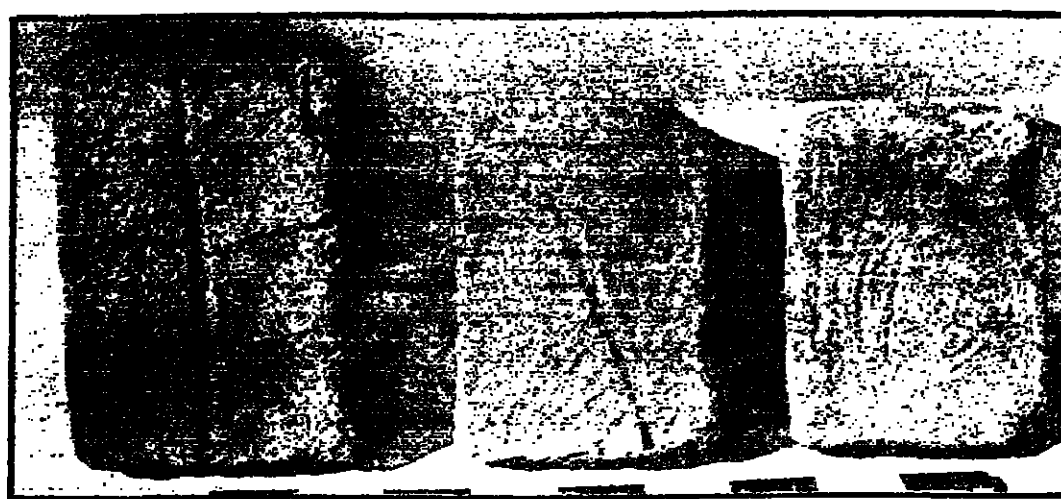
The clay to make the mud bricks was quarried from around the base of the tell. The bricks used for the corners of the houses were made from a different type of clay that was reinforced with more straw to provide greater strength.

Many rooms had stone pavement floors with a clay plaster between the individual stones. A narrow lane with reed mats on the floor led to the building on whose wall the Balaam inscription once hung.

Some of the many clay pots excavated had remains of different types of herbs, weeds, grains, fruits and beans, suggesting they were used by the inhabitants of the village to store food. Gerrit van der Kooij of Leiden University, who has headed the Dutch team during the last three seasons, suggests the 9th/8th century B.C. settlement may have been a small religious community that also farmed, practiced weaving, and engaged in trade.

"The large complex of rooms we uncovered is unlike a normal village arrangement," he said in a recent interview here. "We are convinced from the inscription that the settlement served an important religious function."

Among the artifacts from this period were flint sickle blades, loom weights (some with threads of the original ropes still in them), burnt wood that probably represents the remains of furniture, such as benches, much domestic



Member of Dutch team excavating a complete deer antler from 8th century B.C. Iron Age at Tell Deir Alla (Photo by Rami Khouri)

pottery, some inlaid bone fragments and tools, a few bronze and iron arrowheads, spearheads, needles and hooks, a small gold earring (most likely from the Persian period), and some Egyptian scarabs that probably date from the 15th century B.C. when the armies of Thutmose III passed through the area.

Some potters had letters on them in a script that resembles Aramaic or Phoenician, and are thought to be potters' marks. Conspicuously absent from the artifacts are any "luxury" items.

Many large pits dug into the ground throughout the settlement are thought to have been used to store grain. One large pit measured eight metres in diameter and three metres deep, but its use remains a mystery.

Among the unusual finds from the 8th century B.C. village were two complete antlers of the Mesopotamian Fallow Deer. Dr. Mouwiyah Ibrahim of Yarmouk University noted in an interview that the antlers were found in association with much pottery, loom weights and some metal tools, suggesting perhaps that they were related to the crafts industries.



Mudbricks from 8th century B.C. village

Modern day plague reaching far corners of the world

By Brenda Watson
Associated Press

GENEVA, Switzerland — AIDS is reaching into the far corners of the world and fear is spreading with it.

In Milan, where 50 of Italy's 64 AIDS cases have been reported, Italian officials say some medical personnel have refused to treat AIDS patients.

In Britain, a fireman's union advised its members not to give mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to suspected homosexuals.

In China, the authorities have banned the import of blood products because they may carry the AIDS virus.

A total of 15,131 people in 43 countries had Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome as of Aug. 30, according to the World Health Organisation. Of those, 12,932 victims were in the United States, where the sexually transmitted virus was first recognised in 1981. Exact data about the number of deaths were unavailable but the fatality rate is close to 50 per cent and is expected to rise. No one is known to have recovered from the disease. In the United States 6,481 victims have died.

The National U.S. Centres for Disease Control has tallied 165 cases of AIDS among American children under 13, although doctors estimate hundreds more probably have milder forms of the disease and others will develop it. The children have generally caught the disease from infected parents.

The average number of AIDS cases in Western Europe and the United States doubled every six months until 1983 and is now doubling every year, reports the WHO, which has its headquarters in Geneva.

Noting this decline in the rate of increase, a WHO official said he hopes the "crisis" will be over by 1990.

"I think you'll have a residue (of

cases) you'll have to live with. But it won't be a top priority," Fakhry Asaad, chief of WHO's Communicable Disease Department, said in an interview.

"People are changing their sexual habits" in response to education drives by governments, he said. People who limit the number of sexual partners they choose can reduce their risk or exposure, for example.

There is no known cure for AIDS, and scientists are not optimistic about the chances of developing a vaccine soon.

In North America, Europe, Australia and Japan, at least 70 per cent of the victims are homosexual men. Intravenous drug users, hemophiliacs and blood transfusion recipients also are at high risk of contracting the virus, since it appears to be transmitted through blood, semen and probably other body fluids.

But the syndrome, which strips away the body's ability to fight off infection, is not confined to these groups.

In Africa, where the virus is believed to have originated, "It has been difficult to identify any group at particular risk," said the WHO article.

"AIDS in Africa occurs almost as frequently among females as males. Neither homosexuality nor intravenous drug abuse, nor even hemophilia is a particular characteristic of sufferers."

About one-quarter of AIDS victims in Europe do not belong to a risk group, according to WHO statistics published March 31. Many are immigrants from Africa or the Caribbean.

Belgium has the highest per capita incidence of AIDS in Western Europe, with 99 cases reported as of Aug. 30, or 8-2 cases for every 1 million residents. Of those, 73 victims were from central Africa, mostly Zaire.

The rapid spread of AIDS in developed countries took health officials and the public by surprise.

A sense of panic combined with popular misconceptions about how the virus is contracted has led to prejudice against the major group of victims — male homosexuals.

In Poland, the health ministry is asking "high-risk" groups — homosexuals, drug addicts and hemophiliacs — to volunteer for tests for the virus. Officials in Tokyo say one-third of Japan's hemophiliacs now carry the virus.

British newspapers initially dubbed AIDS the "gay plague" to the consternation of British health officials who accused the media of an "almost medieval" reaction. Cleaners at a theatre in Wales refused to sweep a stage after gay actors performed there.

In Australia, where 109 AIDS cases have been reported and doctors warn that up to 50,000 people may be carrying the virus, the disease is considered a leading public health problem.

Australians have been evicted from their homes or fired from jobs because tests showed they had AIDS antibodies in their blood, indicating possible exposure, said Bruce White, general secretary of an Australian government AIDS task force. Eighty-six per cent of the confirmed AIDS cases have been male homosexuals.

The WHO is organising an international research and education campaign against AIDS. The Claude Bernard Hospital in Paris has been designated a WHO "collaborating centre" on AIDS research, and other institutions worldwide will soon be included in the network. The U.N.-affiliated WHO plans a conference on AIDS in late September in Geneva.

Governments, with WHO's urging, have begun information drives about preventive measures and started programmes to screen blood donors and purify blood products. In the United States, widespread use of an AIDS screening test has led authorities to declare the American blood supply free of AIDS.

In Amsterdam, the Netherlands, where small-scale drug use and prostitution are generally tolerated by police, the city is planning a campaign against "heroin prostitution" — women who turn to prostitution to support their drug habits — which is considered a major factor in the spread of AIDS because it combines two high-risk elements.

In Australia, sperm bank donations are checked, and if found to be contaminated, destroyed. The government has launched a campaign advocating the use of condoms by people with multiple sex partners, including prostitutes' clients. Australia's most populous state, New South Wales, plans to fine people who know they may be AIDS carriers and engage in sex without informing their partners of the risk.

Britain has spent \$50 million on expanding production of blood products in order not to depend on imports. Contaminated blood products from the United States used for treating hemophiliacs are believed to have brought AIDS to Japan and West Germany, health officials say.

In Japan, where some 80 per cent of blood coagulants used to treat hemophiliacs come from the United States, the number of AIDS victims has doubled from four to eight since May. Five of the cases are hemophiliacs.

Children with AIDS abandoned

By Sharon Cohen
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Mothers abandoned them. Playmates shunned them. Schools rejected them. Some doctors touch them only with rubber gloves.

They are children with AIDS — young victims of an incurable disease that savages their bodies, steals their minds and stunts their growth. Before it kills them, it breaks the hearts of those who love them.

These children are outcasts. Most aren't old enough to understand their disease. But for those who do, life moves to the dull beat of rejection and loneliness.

Thirteen-year-old Ryan White has been barred from his Indiana school. He sits alone in his bedroom, listening to his teachers and classmates by phone.

Matthew Kozup, 2½, isn't allowed to play with other children at his Virginia home. His mother hugs him, but won't kiss him. His older sister, Sarah, isn't even allowed to touch him.

And Dwight Burk has endured much of the 17 months of his life in a sterile hospital room.

"No one could dream for a day how bad it is," said Jeanne White, mother of Ryan White, who became ill during treatment for hemophilia.

"It's been a disaster for my family," said Susan Kozup, whose son contracted AIDS through contaminated blood. He was born too early, weighing less than 3 pounds (1,400 grammes), and the blood

was meant to give him life.

"I would never want this to happen to someone else," Mrs. Kozup added. "I have so much anger in me. I could just scream."

The National Centre for Disease Control has tallied 165 cases of AIDS among American children under 13, although doctors estimate hundreds more probably have milder forms of the disease and others will develop it.

Nearly 70 per cent of AIDS children have died. That figure is higher than the 50 per cent overall mortality rate, but health officials say that probably just reflects earlier detection among adults.

"We're just seeing the tip of the iceberg," said Dr. Andrew Urbach, a pediatrician at Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh who is treating Dwight Burk. "There have been so many exposures. With more adults getting it, there's going to be more kids getting it."

While AIDS in adults often is linked to chosen lifestyles, such as homosexuality or drug abuse, children contract AIDS passively. Most get AIDS from an infected parent. Others, such as hemophiliacs, ironically get the fatal disease while receiving life-saving treatment.

For children with AIDS, there often is little support beyond loving families and friends, if they have them.

These children "are a real disenfranchised group," said Roger Cunningham, general manager of the AIDS Medical Foundation in New York. "There really is no one speaking up for the kids. We have kids in hospitals who've never

known home. They could go home, but they have no home to go to."

Some drug addict mothers have left their babies in hospitals and never returned, Cunningham said. In New York, he noted, more than a dozen infected children have no homes.

A special day care and health centre is being established for AIDS youngsters and their families at the Albert Einstein Medical College Hospital in New York.

A foster care home for AIDS children is also being planned in Virginia by Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, who built an international reputation for her work with dying people.

Slightly more than one AIDS victim in 100 is 13 or younger, and 80 per cent to 90 per cent of these are under 5, the Centre for Disease Control says. Sixty-one teen-agers are known to have AIDS.

Seven of every 10 reported pediatric cases involve children of AIDS victims or of parents described by health officials as being at increased risk of contracting AIDS, such as hemophiliacs and drug abusers.

Children with AIDS often don't grow or mature. It's called "failure to thrive" and is comparable to weight loss in adults with the disease, said Dr. Brian Novick, assistant clinical professor of pediatrics at Albert Einstein.

Some children also won't walk or talk — and if they do, they may come to a point where they can't anymore.

Did 'Star Wars' happen before?

By Peter Conrad
Reuter

SOLOTHURN, Switzerland — "Star Wars" is not just a future possibility — it happened thousands of years ago.

So says author Erich von Daniken. He says giant space stations, ships flying between stars and sky battles between aliens were described in detail in ancient Sanskrit texts, newly translated for inclusion in his latest book, "Did I Get It Wrong?"

Fifteen years after his "Chariots of the Gods" stirred interest and controversy around the world, the former Swiss hotelier is back with what he says is some of the most convincing evidence ever to back his thesis that beings from other planets visited earth in the remote past.

"The evidence in the new book is so safe, so sure, you cannot disprove it anymore," von Daniken told Reuters at his home in Solothurn, 35 kilometres (20 miles) north of Bern.

Added to certain writings in the Old Testament and pictures and objects studied during 20 years of visiting every continent, he maintains it all adds up to what he says is increasingly watertight proof of his ideas.

Von Daniken first began writing about such phenomena around 25 years ago as a student but it was not until 1968 that he finally got a German publisher to bring out his first book.

Published in 1970 in an English version as "Chariots of the Gods", it was described by von Daniken as "an explosive, provocative and non-scientific book". It was greeted with scorn by many scientists but fired the imagination of a public which had just watched man's first steps on the moon.

Eleven more titles and 48 million sales later, von Daniken still travels an average of 100,000 kms (60,000 miles) a year collecting evidence to answer the question: "Were we visited by extraterrestrials some time ago?"

The new book, just published in German, has been accompanied by a string of chat-show appearances by von Daniken and a poster-campaign advertising its serialisation in Swiss popular daily, Blick. Translations into most major languages are expected to follow in a year or so.

As its title suggests, von Daniken admits in it to minor errors in the past, due largely to naivete and lack of care. A non-corroding column in a temple in New Delhi which he said had been brought by aliens has now started to rust. And a perfect 16th-century world map turned out not so perfect.

"But generally I was not wrong," he said. "All these errors have not brought the house down — on the contrary."

The important thing about the new evidence is its graphic description of events, he said.

He said the texts, written thousands of years ago and quoted in his book in a new translation, describe in detail "gigantic space satellites, made of shiny metal and turning about an axis", right down to their dimension and interiors, as well as smaller craft that fly between them and Earth.

They also tell of a battle between rival satellites, including mention of what von Daniken calls a "laser-like" beam used to destroy them and descriptions of battle victims, reminiscent of accounts of the aftermath of the Hiroshima atomic bomb.

To answer those who attribute the writings to the fertile imagination of their authors, he comes up with the so-called "cargo cults" — scientifically recorded accounts of 20th century meetings between primitive and advanced cultures.

When natives in New Guinea met Australian gold prospectors in the 1920s or New Hebrideans were visited by American troops in 1945, they first worshipped the visitors as Gods who gave them presents — labelled "cargo" — and even made sacrifices to their planes.

Many, too, wrote the meetings into their religions, built straw models of planes and constructed runways in order to try to lure them back.

Von Daniken said, "we know exactly what happened this century when a primitive culture was confronted with a technologically high culture. It is not such a big step to ask how our forefathers reacted in the past."

However close the parallels, he admits there is no concrete proof — although he is still hopeful a long-running international search for extra terrestrial intelligence (SETI) and now artifacts (SETA) will come up with something.

Most religions talk about a second coming and it seems likely that concrete proof has been left somewhere, he said. The only question is where.

Von Daniken said ideas about travel from star to star and about artificial genetic mutations were dismissed as impossible when "Chariots of the Gods" came out, but are now seen as possible.

"We have thousands of indications from archaeology — the question is how to interpret them. Archaeologists until today interpret them in their old manner but I feel at least some of the interpretations are wrong and we must look at them from another point of view."

"We have no conclusive proof, but neither have the opponents," he said.

Among the writers they are trying to invite but who have been barred from entering the United States several times in the past are Kohe Abe of Japan, Gabriel Garcia Marquez of Colombia, Jorge Amado of Brazil and Ernesto Sabato of Argentina.

"This is a monolithic, almost totalitarian piece of legislation," said Styron, adding that Britain's Graham Greene refuses to visit the United States because of the act.

Marquez has been in the United States on a waiver, but Styron said the Latin American Nobel Prize winner was allowed to stay for four days only and not go beyond New York.

Mailer said Pen was negotiating with the State Department on a case by case basis and both are anxious not to detract from the Pen congress by causing a controversy.

Several international writers are planning major speeches at the congress whose theme is "imagination and the state."

The American writer lecture series will feature two writers a night for eight nights, starting on September 22 with a pairing of Saul Bellow and Eudora Welty.

The November 17 lecture is expected to include some fireworks because Mailer and Gore Vidal, who have long been feuding, are to appear on the stage of Broadway's Booth Theatre to read for half an hour each and then debate at Vidal's suggestion.

Mailer said he does not know what will happen and declined to discuss the feud, other than to say, "It has been an existential experience for the both of us."

The last pair of readings will be on December 15 when John Updike shares the podium with Woody Allen, a celebrated short story writer as well as film maker and comedian.

Israel will have to swallow the bitter pill

(Continued from page 4)

comprehensive peace negotiations seems to me but an invitation to very serious trouble. Moreover, we must also face the reality that the other major superpower has legitimate interests and involvements in the Middle East and should be properly engaged, not purposefully and totally excluded.

In short, whatever the final formula which can only be found in direct negotiations between all of the parties, active and persistent diplomatic steps need be taken now to find the right forum for the parties and to create the right atmosphere for negotiations. There are too many dangers lurking which suggest that time is of the essence. For the very character of the Middle East stalemate continues to invite renewed violence and accelerated terrorism. At any time unpredictable events could easily lead to a spiral of unpredictable consequences.

The mistakes and omissions of the past, as well as the dangers

lurking in the present, should compel all of us to ponder Meir Merhav's reasoned conclusion that peace needs to be negotiated with the very enemy with whom one has fought. Mr. Merhav's recognition of this basic reality should be applauded for its clarity and cogency. Certainly, from the Palestinian point-of-view, a delegation selected by others and omitting many will not have the competence to make the concessions and take the decisions that will be required. Perhaps that was the fatal weakness of the autonomy provisions of Camp David. I fear that without an acceptance of the solid reasoning offered by Mr. Merhav the chances of anything progressive happening will be, at best, remote.

If the PLO is now prepared, finally, to talk and negotiate with the government of Israel, should not the government of Israel be prepared to do the same?

And if the government of Israel is prepared for negotiations with Palestinian leaders, should not these Palestinian leaders be prepared to acknowledge that the very act of direct negotiations is

recognition that Israel has a legitimate existence as well as legitimate security concerns that need be met.

Whether a PLO that negotiates directly with Israel is still the PLO of the past, whether an Israel that negotiates with the PLO endangers the security of the state, these have all become semantical obfuscations. Both the PLO and the government of Israel have, as Mr. Merhav suggests, gone to great lengths at various times to prevent having to deal with the other. The "nonsense" of which Mr. Merhav writes has its reflection on both sides of the divide.

Over the years, I have met and been friends with many Israeli leaders and with some leaders in the Arab World, including a few leaders of the PLO. I know from my personal experience that both parties have produced very tall and able personalities.

My basic conclusion parallels that of Meir Merhav. I think the advice he offers should be extended by their true friends to both parties. "If we want peace, with whom shall we make it if not with our mortal enemies."

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Battered Mexico will still host 1986 World Cup

FIFA sticks to original plans despite earthquake

ZURICH (R) — Mexico will still stage next year's World Cup soccer finals as planned despite extensive earthquake damage, the International Football Federation (FIFA) said Monday.

General Secretary Joseph Blatter told a news conference: "We have decided at a meeting here today not to change the original plan to stage the World Cup finals in Mexico next year."

Blatter said the decision was taken after personal contacts with football authorities in Mexico City. FIFA President Joao Havelange in Brazil and Hermann Neuberger, Chairman of FIFA's organising committee in West Germany.

Blatter said the finals would start as planned on May 31 with a match between holders Italy and a side to be named in Mexico City's Aztec Stadium, which early reports from the Mexican capital said

was undamaged by the earthquake.

The games would continue until June 29, again as planned, though starting times of some of the 52 matches would have to be changed.

The decision comes only four days after parts of Mexico city were devastated by an earthquake measuring 7.8 on the open-ended Richter scale. Thousands of people are believed to have died and hundreds of buildings toppled.

Speculation had mounted that FIFA might delay the finals for a year to give Mexico time to recover. This idea was voiced over the weekend by FIFA Senior

Vice-President Harry Cavan in a radio interview in Britain.

But FIFA decided against any such delay at Monday's review with the president of the Mexican Organising Committee, Guillermo Canedo.

Monday's meeting was to have been a routine session to discuss progress on the World Cup.

Blatter said: "On behalf of FIFA and the soccer-playing world we extend our deepest sympathies to the Mexican people in this sad hour."

"Our president has already sent a message of deep condolences to the Mexican head of state from Rio de Janeiro," he said.

A FIFA spokesman said there were no plans to send an inspection team to review the situation in Mexico.

The next visit would be a routine one already set for December 15, the date of the World Cup draw in Mexico City itself, he said.

Canedo, a FIFA vice-president who was in Spain at the time of the first earthquake, said he had been in contact with Mexican officials to assess the situation.

"On the basis of this information, I was able to tell FIFA that we were quite capable of staging the World Cup next year as originally arranged," he said.



Heavyweight champion Larry Holmes avoids the right hand of challenger Michael Spinks during round 2 of Saturday's title fight. Spinks won, becoming the first light-heavyweight champion to capture the heavyweight crown (AP wirephoto).

Spinks' reign may not last long

By Jack Cavanaugh
Reuters

LAS VEGAS — When he walked into the coffee shop of the Riviera Hotel Sunday morning with some friends, only a few people recognised the tall man wearing a track suit, blue baseball hat and dark glasses.

That was ironic since many of them were talking about Michael Spinks and his historic victory the night before when he outpointed Larry Holmes to become the first light-heavyweight champion to win a heavyweight title.

But then Spinks, until his Saturday night International Boxing Federation (IBF) triumph, had not achieved celebrity status in the United States or anywhere else.

If anything, he had been overshadowed by his younger brother, Leon, who pulled off an equally stunning win seven years ago when he outpointed a fading Muhammad Ali to become the first of two brothers to capture the heavyweight title, an unprecedented feat.

Sadly, Leon Spinks became a national joke as a result of his escapades outside the ring. And, with his gap-toothed grin, he became instantly recognisable, even though his championship reign lasted only seven months.

Where his younger brother is loud, boisterous and somewhat

uncontrollable, Michael Spinks is generally soft-spoken, polite and very much in control.

But many boxing experts feel his reign as a heavyweight champion may not last much longer than that of his wayward brother. Holmes told Reuters Sunday he did not think his successor could beat any of the top-ranking heavyweights.

Many others agree, believing young heavyweights such as World Boxing Council champion (WBC) Pinklon Thomas and World Boxing Association (WBA) title-holder Tony Tubbs may be too big and strong for Spinks, a natural light-heavyweight.

Unlike 35-year-old Holmes, they point out, Thomas, Tubbs and other young heavyweight contenders such as Tim Witherpoon, Carl Williams and David Bey are still approaching their prime.

Yet Spinks may possess qualities some members of that group appear to lack: Dedication and a willingness to train hard. In recent years, no WBA or WBC heavyweight champion has succeeded in making a single title defence before losing his crown.

Spinks, Don King and Butch Lewis, who co-promoted Saturday's bout, realise the new champion's only multimillion-dollar payday lies in a rematch with Holmes. But Holmes reiterated Sunday he did not plan to fight

again. The new IBF champion told Reuters Sunday he planned a long holiday and had no idea who his first challenger would be. Most likely, Lewis will match him against a low-ranked member of the top 10 while hoping Holmes agrees to a rematch after all.

Spinks is an unorthodox fighter who confuses foes, as he did Holmes, by bobbing and weaving, fighting in flurries and then dancing away. As a light-heavyweight he hit hard enough to stop 19 opponents, but never hurt Holmes.

Spinks, engaging and with a ready smile, is a self-effacing fighter, not given to boasting. Recalling his boyhood in a tough part of St. Louis, Spinks said: "When Leon and I were kids our mother always kept us in the house because we were getting beat up. They called us 'mess-overs' because we were easy to mess over. So we got tired of it and would go out on the porch and hit each other."

Eventually, Leon took up boxing, did well and gained a measure of respect. Michael soon followed suit.

"After that, the other kids left us alone. But Leon, our three other brothers and our sister still fought at home. One day, I boxed my sister and she busted my nose," Spinks added.

Now Spinks will have to contend with boxing's big boys.

Ballesteros wins at Barcelona

BARCELONA (R) — Severiano Ballesteros, who defends the World Matchplay golf title at Wentworth, England, later this week, coasted to a three-stroke victory in the Barcelona Open at El Prat on Sunday.

Ballesteros, three ahead overnight, finished with a 71 for a 16 under par 272 total, winning \$27,400 to push his total earnings

for the season on the European and U.S. Circuits to around \$329,000.

It was his fourth win of the year following successes in New Orleans and in the French and Irish Opens.

South African Jeff Hawkes shot 71 for 275 and a second prize of \$18,250. Ireland's Christy O'Connor Junior finished third.

Annacone captures tennis title

LOS ANGELES (R) — Paul Annacone took a 4-1 lead in the

first set, but Edberg, the second seed, came back to even games at 4-4 and forced the tiebreaker. Annacone won the tiebreaker with a volley 7-5.

In the second set, Annacone again led with a break in the third game to 2-1. But the pattern of the first set repeated itself, with games going to 6-6 and the tiebreaker. Annacone squandered five

match points before Edberg won it 10-8 when Annacone missed an easy volley off the return.

There were no service breaks in the final set. But at 5-5 with Annacone serving, a smash by the American at game point was called out.

Blatny leads chess tourney in UAE

ABU DHABI (R) — Pavel Blatny of Czechoslovakia led the 24th World Junior Chess Championship at Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Monday with eight points after ten of 13 rounds, chess officials said.

Blatny was closely followed by Maxim Dlugy of the United States and Josef Klinger of Austria, with 7½ points each. Tied for third place were Howell (Britain), Griyas (Greece) and Gunawan (Indonesia), with seven points each.

The tournament, ending on Friday, is the first international chess event to be held in the Arab World. The UAE will also host next year's International Chess Federation Olympiad in Dubai.

E. Germans set 3 records

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany's crack athletics squad set three world records at a meeting in East Berlin Sunday.

Sabine Busch finally shattered the 400 metres hurdles mark she had been threatening ever since switching to the event this year, world champion Heike Dreschler set a women's long jump best and Ulf Timmermann broke the men's shot record.

Busch decided to concentrate on the hurdles at the beginning of the season due to the stiff competition she faced from Marlies Goehr, and Marita Koch in the flat events. Her decision was vindicated when she clocked 53.56, two hundredths of a second inside the previous record set by Margarita Ponomareva of the Soviet Union in Kiev 15 months ago.

Like Busch, Dreschler was keen to produce a confidence boosting display before next month's World Cup in Canberra, and she achieved just that by adding one centimetre to Romanian Anisoara Cusmir's two-year-old long jump record with a leap of 7.44.

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Amman, Sixth Circle, Sweifieh

Montessori World Nursery will be open by the beginning of October. It is hoped that the nursery be a nucleus for an integrated educational institution which takes care of the Jordanian child and helps him develop the various aspects of his personality.

The Montessori system is based on the provision of an exciting environment which has been well-prepared, organised and equipped with all the necessary facilities and equipment. A child can move freely in the light of the instructions and guidance he receives from his teachers with the aim of developing an independent and self-disciplined personality which is prepared to join the elementary cycle with confidence and ability.

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- C. Another set of modern educational games which serve the nursery's objectives.
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Children between the age of one and a half years and four years will be admitted to the nursery.

For more information please call tel. 812410

Registration started on Saturday 14/9/85 between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the nursery's premises in the Sixth Circle area, Sweifieh, opposite the Korean Building.

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Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30. Abdali, behind ALIA offices

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(Colour)

Performances: 12-3-5-30-3

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.4305/25	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3660/70	Canadian dollars
	2.7210/40	West German marks
	3.0650/700	Dutch guilders
	2.2225/75	Swiss francs
	55.15/25	Belgian francs
	8.3100/200	French francs
	1838/1843	Italian lire
	231.20/40	Japanese yen
	8.1400/550	Swedish crowns
	8.0900/1050	Norwegian kroner
	9.8800/950	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	329.30/329.80	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed above their lows but government bonds showed 1½ point gains following sterling's jump against the dollar, dealers said. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 6.3 at 1,292.4 after 1,286.5 at 0845 GMT.

Weekend news of the G-5 agreement to cooperate in lowering the dollar's value hit leading exporters but moved up on mounting speculation that U.K. base rates could soon come down after money market interest rates fell as much as ½ point.

ICI ended 13p lower at 634 after a low of 630, lifted from its low by bargain hunting and the dollar's morning rally, dealers said. North American and gold shares were higher.

British aerospace ended 10p up at 415. Indian Airlines signed a letter of intent to buy A320s from Airbus Industrie, in which BAE has a minority interest. Beecham was 2p lower at 331 after 325 and Glaxo 20p down at 1,280 after 1,255.

Stores were helped by hopes of lower base lending rates with British Home Stores up 8p to 295 and Bataillon 10p higher at 112. Oils were quietly lower, still overshadowed by Saudi production policies despite Monday's rise in North Sea spot prices.

Banks were mostly lower on worries over foreign debt exposure with Lloyds down 17p to 387 while Midland was unmoved on Friday's closing 389. Insurances closed above their lows.

Egypt may float pound

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's central bank governor, Mr. Ali Negm, said Monday the government was considering floating the pound but rumours such action was imminent were premature.

"Nothing new has been decided and anything said now could just ignite the situation," he told Reuters.

He had been asked in a telephone interview to comment on strong market rumours that Egypt would announce a floatation this week.

Foreign bankers and Egyptian businessmen have reported a severe shortage of hard currency. This has sent the pound's free market rate plunging to a low of 1.74 to the dollar in recent days against the official "incentive rate" of 1.35.

The official rate of the pound within a multi-tiered foreign exchange system operated by the central bank remains at 0.83 pounds to the dollar.

The bankers said the pound was overvalued and the government was under pressure to devalue to enable the currency to compete with the free market rate.

"All these things are still under consideration with the prime minister," Mr. Negm said. He added that no decision was imminent.

Prime Minister Ali Lutfi, an economist and banking expert, took up office earlier this month.

Kuwait set to introduce import levies

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait will soon slap hefty import levies on mineral water, baby nappies and refuse bin liners to protect fledgling local industry, an industry official said Monday.

She said new duties ranging up to 25 per cent of the import value of several categories of goods would be announced in the government gazette, probably later this month.

The duties mark the first phase of a new import tariff policy unveiled last month by Oil and Industry Minister Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah.

He announced varying grades of duty would be imposed to protect selected local industries from foreign competition.

Turkey's 49th bank opens

ISTANBUL (R) — Adahank, Turkey's 49th bank, opened for business Monday with a single branch in Istanbul.

A spokesman told Reuters Adahank would be a wholesale bank, concentrating on export and import financing and capital markets. A second branch would open in Ankara soon and five others were planned.

He said the bank had a capital of two billion liras (\$3.8 million) and was controlled by Mr. Kemal Uzan, head of the established Turkiye Imar Bankasi.

N.Y. statement sends dollar reeling

LONDON (R) — The dollar suffered one of its sharpest falls ever on world money markets Monday after major Western finance ministers and central bankers agreed in New York that the U.S. currency was overvalued.

At noon the U.S. currency was quoted at around 2.70 marks, more than 15 pence lower than its Friday close in Europe, and also suffered big declines against other currencies.

As funds rushed out of the American unit, gold added over \$10 an ounce in price to around \$330, compared with \$319.15 at the close of trading in London on Friday.

Finance ministers of the United States, West Germany, Japan, Britain and France said after an unusually publicised meeting in New York Sunday that they were ready to cooperate to encourage a lower dollar to combat rising trade protectionism.

Traders said this meant more readiness to intervene in markets. Monday's dollar fall was a bigger depreciation against the mark than on "black Friday" on Sept. 21 last year when West Germany's central bank sold \$450 million in a solo bid to halt the dollar's rise above three marks.

Reports of the dollar hitting 15-month long came in Monday from Frankfurt, Paris, Zurich and other European financial centres, but dealers were unable to detect any sign that the central banks had had a direct hand in the decline this time.

"The authorities have managed to talk the dollar down," one leading foreign exchange dealer commented.

French Finance Minister Pierre Berezgoy said in a television interview: "Current exchange rates do not reflect the strengths and weaknesses of each of our economies."

He added: "The dollar is overvalued. We have been saying it for a long time in international circles, and today we are all saying it together." The interview was recorded in New York Sunday after the one-day ministerial meeting.

British Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson was more circumspect at a press conference in London. He conceded the Americans were now more favourably disposed towards foreign exchange market intervention, but said when asked he did not know by how much the dollar was overvalued.

Leading currency analyst Paul Chertkow of International Treasury Management said the Group of Five (G-5) statement agreed in New York represented a significant U.S. policy change.

Moreover there was little chance of an early improvement. In the OECD area as a whole unemployment might rise another half million, to 31.5 million, by the second half of next year.

Rejecting arguments that Europe's job shortage was mainly caused by rigid labour markets, the report said government actions directly affected both the level and the distribution of unemployment.

Tested policies may be useful. Among policies which have been tested in some countries and could usefully be borrowed by others, the report pointed to: — Schemes to promote self-employment.

A few OECD countries had started allowing jobless people to use unemployment benefit to set up new businesses. "Initial evaluations of such programmes indicate that these are promising initiatives deserving wider application," it said.

It also indicated freedom of action for Saudi Arabia to barter crude oil against arms, as widely reported to be the case with the recently concluded deal with Britain for Tornado jet fighters.

The statements were distributed by the Saudi Press Agency as the kingdom, the world's leading oil exporter, was celebrating the 54th anniversary of the founding of the state of Saudi Arabia by King Abdul Aziz Al Saud.

The kingdom, said King Fahd, had "exercised tremendous effort" over the past years to "ensure harmony and an agreement within OPEC to which all would adhere."

Saudi Arabia used to produce between 10 and 11 million barrels per day of crude oil, and had the potential to produce more, he said. But it had allowed its production to dip low "in solidarity with our brethren in OPEC so that we do not impede the stabilisation of prices."

Under the OPEC-decreed production quotas enforced by the organisation in recent years in face of the glut on the world oil market which was pushing down prices, Saudi Arabia acted as a "swing partner" with an average quota of 4.35 million barrels per day.

The deteriorating situation on the market, coupled with the overtravelling of quotas and prices by other OPEC member states, had in recent months however forced the kingdom to a production level of less than two million barrels per day, its lowest in two decades, in the efforts to withhold the downward slide of the prices.

Oil circles in recent weeks had begun to monitor a rising daily production figure for the kingdom, currently put in the range of three million barrels per day.

King Fahd said he had asked his oil minister, Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, to advise OPEC oil ministers that "we are never the guardians of anyone... we are but one of the members of the organisation and, if one produces more, we cannot say do not produce more, and if it sells at lower prices, we cannot say why are you selling at lower prices because that state may have been forced to do it."

He added that the same applied to the barter of oil against other goods.

When central banks led by the Bundesbank swung into action after the U.S. currency hit a 13½-year peak of 3.4780 marks the previous day.

Several Frankfurt dealers predicted the dollar slide would continue. Some said lows of 2.50 or even 2.40 marks seemed possible.

"The market hasn't yet really grasped that the entire rules of the game have changed," one dealer said.

In Paris, the dollar was fixed at a 15-month low of 8.2450 French francs, after closing at the end of last week at 8.7175.

In London sterling bounded higher to nearly \$1.45 at one point before falling back slightly to trade around \$1.4350. It closed on Friday at \$1.3680.

The Japanese yen firmed strongly to around 231.50 to set dollar compared with a close of 240.10 here on Friday. The Swiss franc was quoted here at a close of 2.21 to the dollar compared with 2.3425 last week.

Monday's drop in the value of the dollar compares with an 18-penny fall on Feb. 27 this year.

Support for new firms. Canadian, U.S. and British studies showed most new jobs came from the creation of new firms, whether large or small, it said. Small firms had a high failure rate and small was not necessarily beautiful. But "in some cases large companies faced with... plant closures have helped their redundant workers to set up small enterprises. Initiatives such as these should be encouraged."

Action to fight youth unemployment. "It is important to secure a better match between the productivity of young workers and their labour costs," it said. This would mean paying young workers less, or possibly subsidising their wages, it said. But at the same time training must be offered to avoid locking young low-paid workers into dead-end jobs.

The report said that in general government policies should aim to bring more job opportunities to women, young people and minorities.

But the rise in chronic unemployment meant that target groups for special aid must be more tightly defined to make sure help was focused on the people who really needed it.

Presenting the report at a news conference, OECD economist Ron Gass urged an end to arguments over whether unemployment should be tackled by supply-side action to reduce rigidities in OECD economies or demand-side action to boost consumption.

"Supply-side and demand-side policies are like bread and butter — they are better when they go together," he commented.

He said an OECD working group led by former European Community commissioner Ralf Dahrendorf was due to complete a study on labour markets next year.

Among other issues the group is studying the link between wage flexibility and employment opportunities.

"Empirical evidence on a relationship between wage flexibility and employment is not very convincing," Mr. Gass said.

"Theoretically there is a link but theories do not always work."

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, SEPT. 24, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A great day and evening for you to get out of whatever rut into which you may have sunk, to find new, modern and up-to-date ways to be more effective in expressing your talents.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Know what your personal aims are and just how best to gain them in a most ethical and efficient way. Be more concerned with the modern.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) The most powerful person you know can give you excellent advice to improve your lot in life, so listen carefully.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You are inspired just how to gain your finest aspirations, so put your idea in operation quickly. Meet persons who can help.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Your mate is relying on you for success from worry, so do something special for this person now.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Contact the most informed persons you know and let them advise you how best to gain your aims of a personal nature.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Striking out in new directions where your job is concerned is wise today if you are to advance. Stay alert.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You may have an unexpected invitation that could bring you much pleasure and meet persons who are very progressive.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Take in added interests with kin and get out of that comfortable rut you are in that isn't very profitable.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get into civic work that awaits you and confer with those of much experience in it for best results.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Study your property and other possessions and try to make them more modern and add to their value.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Bring those fine talents you have to the fore and you can get excellent results in dealing with others.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Be more cognizant of what is going on in the modern age instead of being so fixed with the traditional.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be very much alert to modern living and will utilize conditions constructively, but with an added twist to them. Your progeny will be most interested in electronics, computers and other New Era matters.

THE Daily Crossword by Mary Cae Whitten

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5 bombs kill 2 in Punjab on last day of campaign

Poll puts Gandhi in lead for elections

AMRITSAR, India (R) — Five bombs exploded in Punjab state Monday on the last day of election campaigning and police said at least two children were killed.

They said four bombs exploded in or under vehicles of candidates belonging to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party and the main Sikh party, the Akali Dal.

The fifth blast killed two children when it went off in a car parked outside a bus station in the northern Punjab town of Batala, police said.

They urged car owners in the state to check their vehicles for small magnetic time bombs.

The alert went out after police questioned a Sikh youth who was arrested following a blast under the car of a Congress (I) candidate in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar Monday morning.

Amritsar Deputy Inspector General of Police Narpat Singh told reporters the youth said Sikh extremists had distributed many of magnetic time bombs for their supporters to attach to vehicles.

Mr. Singh said the devices were more sophisticated than the transistor radio bombs used in New Delhi Sunday when three people were killed.

He said the latest devices were small and hard to detect on a vehicle.

The first opinion poll on Wednesday's state election in Punjab showed Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) leading the

main Sikh political party, the Akali Dal.

The poll, in the Times of India newspaper, said there was 37 per cent support for Congress (I) followed by 30 per cent for the Akali Dal, with the rest split between other parties or undecided voters.

The figures suggested that neither Mr. Gandhi's party nor the Akali Dal would win an outright majority and a coalition state government was the most likely result.

The poll was carried out a week ago, after the first of the prime minister's campaign visits to Punjab, home of most of India's Sikhs.

In Punjab, shots were fired in the air at a Congress (I) election meeting Sunday night.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said a bodyguard of Congress (I) candidate Darbari Lal fired two shots in the air at Amritsar to scare away political opponents trying to storm the dais.

PTI said a Congress (I) worker was injured in the clash in the city's old quarter near Sikh's holiest shrine, the Golden Temple.

State-run All-India Radio said police were checking bus and railway stations, cinemas and other public places after the booby-trapped transistor radio exploded Sunday near a railway station in

the Indian capital. Police warned people not to touch suspicious objects left in public places. They said they arrested three suspected Sikh extremists in connection with the blast.

Hundreds of suspected extremists were arrested in police raids on Saturday in New Delhi and the two states of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir.

Surjit Singh Barnala, acting head of the Sikhs' main political party the Akali Dal, said innocent party workers had been indiscriminately arrested. Security operations of this kind helped engender extremist feelings among young Sikhs, he said.

The election campaign was marked by large-scale security to protect candidates and party workers from extremist attacks.

The New Delhi explosion failed to prevent Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi from making a final campaign tour in Punjab, most of whose population is Sikh.

Speaking after the blast, Mr. Gandhi told voters in the town of Fazilka near the Pakistani border: "You have to decide whether bullets should be met with bullets... we have to show the world on Wednesday that Punjab stands for Indian unity."

Mr. Gandhi visited Punjab four times in the past week, speaking to a total of about 250,000 people in 13 towns in support of Congress (I) candidates, most of whom are in a straight fight with the Akali Dal.

Pakistani police block meeting of opposition

ISLAMABAD (R) — Police stopped opposition politicians meeting in Lahore Monday to discuss a controversial bill to pardon Pakistan's army for the past eight years of martial law, an opposition spokesman said.

They arrested one leader of the banned Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) and surrounded the homes of four others, the movement's Punjab province spokesman Salmaan Taseer said.

Police Sunday expelled two other politicians from Punjab province to stop them attending the meeting, which was to discuss the draft indemnity bill before the National Assembly.

President Mohammad Zia ul Haq said on Saturday he would lift martial law by Dec. 31 but might take special legal steps if the assembly does not pass the sweeping

bill. "They are talking about civilian government and democratisation but they are not even letting us make a statement about it," Mr. Taseer, one of the detainees, said by telephone from his encircled home.

The indemnity bill has become bogged down in the assembly, where independent members and some government supporters have criticised it as a blanket pardon for the military.

After several meetings between Gen. Zia and assembly members last week, the government set up a committee of supporters and independents to search for a consensus.

The MRD, which boycotted the controlled general elections in February, was expected to call on the assembly to throw out the bill.

Vietnamese, Kampuchean guerrillas renew fighting

BANGKOK (R) — Fresh fighting has flared between Vietnamese troops and Kampuchean guerrillas near the Thai border amid reports that Hanoi has sent 10,000 reinforcements into Kampuchea, officials said Monday.

Thai military officers in the border town of Aranyaprathet said more than 10 Vietnamese were killed or wounded in fighting with Khmer Rouge guerrillas

Sunday and two Thai soldiers were wounded by mortar bombs, crashing across the frontier.

Fighting broke out again this morning in the same area opposite a Thai village 12 kilometres south east of Aranyaprathet but no details were available, they said. Khmer Rouge Radio, monitored in Bangkok, said Hanoi had sent more than 10,000 fresh troops to Kampuchea in the past month.

Chinese end party meeting

PEKING (R) — A special conference of the Chinese Communist Party ended Monday after far-reaching leadership changes which marked a major victory for top leader Deng Xiaoping.

The New China News Agency, announcing the conclusion of the conference, said Mr. Deng and other senior leaders made speeches, but the texts were not immediately available.

The six-day meeting, carefully organised by Mr. Deng to oversee the changes, opened last Wednesday and has accepted the resignations of more than 100 veteran leaders including Marshal Ye Jianying, 88.

On Sunday it approved the appointment of 56 new people as full members of the party Central Committee.

The leadership changes approved by the conference amount to one of the biggest cleanouts of the party's top ranks since it took power in 1949.

Mr. Deng, 81 last month, is eager to rejuvenate the party leadership and place his protégés in positions of power while he is still on the scene in order to ensure continuation of his policies, which have revitalised China's economy.

One Western diplomat said the list of new members of the Central Committee released Sunday night contained the names of many younger provincial leaders who had proved themselves to be competent in the past two or three years.

He said the list also included a number of younger military people. But he added that one result of the changes was likely to be a smaller political role for the army.

Western analysts said the conference marked a crucial turning point in Mr. Deng's campaign to shift opponents of his policies out of the party leadership.

Australia seeks full French apology over sinking of Greenpeace ship

CANBERRA (R) — Australia Monday called for a full apology by France following its admission that French agents acting under orders sank the Greenpeace protest ship Rainbow Warrior in New Zealand.

"The Australian government expects the French government to act within the bounds of international law and civilised conduct and to take account of world and regional opinion", acting Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said in a statement.

"At the very least a full apology by the French government is now clearly called for."

The statement is the strongest yet by the Canberra government which has been muted in its criticism of French involvement in the Rainbow Warrior sabotage.

The Australian reaction followed an earlier condemnation of France by New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange who called the sinking a "sordid act of international state-backed terrorism."

Mr. Lange told reporters the admission by France that its agents were ordered to sink the Greenpeace flagship as it prepared to lead an anti-nuclear protest flotilla to the Mururoa atoll test site

vindicated Wellington's position in the affair.

He disclosed that New Zealand had told France Sept. 6 that it would sue for damages over the violation of its sovereignty involved in the sabotage operation.

Mr. Lange said the admission of official guilt by France was clearly painful and largely superseded his demand for an apology by Paris over the July 10 bombing in which one of the Rainbow Warrior's crew died.

But he condemned the declaration by French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius that the individuals involved would be protected because they acted under orders.

"The idea that acting under the orders of a foreign power gives anyone licence to execute criminal acts in another country with impunity, and remain inviolate from prosecution or sanction, is of course quite absurd," Mr. Lange said.

"If that became the state of affairs that govern international relations, that would be sheer anarchy."

Two members of the French Secret Service, the DGSE, are in custody in Auckland and face a preliminary hearing from Nov. 4 on charges of murder and sab-

otage.

Mr. Lange said they would be presumed innocent until found guilty but France should not back away from its vows to expose the truth and prosecute those involved.

"It now remains for France to deliver. The people who actually did the work ought to be brought to justice. This is not a war, he added. "The defence of acting under orders is clearly inappropriate."

A grim faced Fabius said: "agents of the DGSE sank this boat. They acted on orders." French television broke into its evening bulletins to carry the prime minister's statement, which ended: "The truth about this affair is cruel but it must be clearly and thoroughly established."

Mr. Fabius spoke after being given the news by Defence Minister Paul Joux, appointed on Friday to succeed Mr. Charles Hernu who resigned over the scandal. He did not say who gave the orders to sabotage the vessel. Mr. Hernu denied ordering anything more than surveillance of Greenpeace, which is campaigning against French nuclear tests in the Pacific.

Another journalist killed in Philippines

DAVAO, Philippines (R) — Gunmen shot dead the editor of a magazine Monday and another journalist escaped a murder attempt, police said.

Randolph Sunico, 50, editor of the Philippine Southern Chronicle, was shot in the head near his Davao home by three young men who chased him when he tried to flee, relatives said.

He was the third journalist to die in Davao this year. At least 14 media men have been killed in the Philippines since January.

In a separate incident in the southern Philippines city, Freddie Vargara, anchorman of a Davao radio station, escaped unhurt when gunmen tried to shoot him early this morning.

Journalists said Vargara was on a media death list which according to the military had been compiled by Communist rebels. But Sunico, whose weekly took an independent line and often attacked both the government and the opposition, was not on the list.

The National Press Club has expressed alarm at the killings.

Koreans say family visits successful

SEOUL (R) — The first exchange of separated North and South Korean families was a success despite official squabbling, a northern Red Cross official said Monday.

There were emotional scenes in Seoul and Pyongyang over the weekend as relatives who not seen other for up to 40 years embraced and wept.

Officials of both sides traded charges about limiting the reunions of the 100 people who crossed the heavily-fortified border dividing the two countries.

But chief Northern delegate Son Song-Pil said before leaving Seoul Monday: "The visit was successful. Even though the period of the visit was short it was

useful and significant. In view of the wishes of all Korean people for the reunification of our fatherland, the exchange visits this time was just a start."

An estimated 10 million Koreans were separated by the 1950-53 Korean War. Some relatives have not seen each other since the peninsula was divided in 1945.

Pyongyang Radio, monitored in Tokyo, said two members of the North Korean group visiting the South were "forcibly detained" Sunday and Northern reporters harassed. It called on Seoul for a convincing explanation.

A North Korean spokesman accused Seoul of neglecting to find some relatives of the 50 Northern

S. African violence claims 2 more lives

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — Protesters killed a black policeman and police shot dead a black man as unrest erupted in South Africa hours before 11 British church leaders were due on a fact-finding visit.

Police headquarters in Pretoria said the policeman was murdered during the night in the eastern Cape black township of Soweto but gave no details.

A black man died when a riot squad opened fire on a crowd stoning them in Zwide black township near Port Elizabeth.

More than 700 people have been killed in 20 months of unrelenting violence against black grievances over apartheid.

At Queenstown in the eastern Cape, a black man was critically ill in hospital after police found him unconscious with a burning car tyre around him.

The South African Press Association reported that two people in the black tribal homeland of Ciskei were shot dead early Sunday in the town of Mdantsane after police arrived at a funeral vigil.

Imprisoned black leader Nelson Mandela, in need of surgery for a swollen prostate gland and internal cysts, will be examined by a team of doctors appointed by his family, one of Mr. Mandela's daughters said Monday.

Zenani Dlamini, 23, the elder of Mr. Mandela's two daughters, said the examination will be conducted by family-appointed doctors from Baragwanath Hospital, the giant medical centre for blacks in Soweto.

The move appears to be a concession by the Federal Prisons Department to meet the family's request for their own doctor to check the 67-year-old black leader.

Worries about Mr. Mandela's health emerged on Sept. 6, when the department reported he had been examined by a urologist. Five days later, after visiting her father in Cape Town's Pollsmoor Prison, Ms. Dlamini told reporters the government-appointed urologist urged Mr. Mandela to undergo surgery.

Cagney And Lacey wins 4 Emmy Awards

PASADENA, California (R) — Police dramas dominated U.S. television's Emmy Awards but the show that won the most golden statuettes was Cagney And Lacey.

Police headquarters in Pretoria said the policeman was murdered during the night in the eastern Cape black township of Soweto but gave no details. A black man died when a riot squad opened fire on a crowd stoning them in Zwide black township near Port Elizabeth. More than 700 people have been killed in 20 months of unrelenting violence against black grievances over apartheid.

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Money pours into Farm Aid concert

CHAMPAIGN, Illinois (R) — Some of the biggest names in American music took the stage to help struggling U.S. farmers in a 14-hour concert which country singer and organiser Willie Nelson said was triggering donations at the rate of a half million dollars an hour.

"When the family farm goes, so goes the grocery store down the street, and the service station. It snowballs," Nelson told reporters jammed into a parking lot press tent outside the rain-soaked football stadium where the concert unfolded. Concert organisers said up to \$70 million may be raised through ticket sales, corporate donations and pledges.

That amount, but a splinter of the estimated \$214 billion owed by American farmers, would be used for neediest cash payments, legal assistance, job retraining, counselling and other programmes, Nelson said. The 80,000 fans who jammed the University of Illinois Stadium danced in the aisles to the beach boys and clapped and stomped for stars like Nelson, Emmylou Harris, Charlie Daniels, Arlo Guthrie and Loretta Lynn. The playbill was an all-time top 40 of country and popular music.

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Concert nets \$700,000 for famine aid

COPENHAGEN (AP) — Organisers of a nine-hour outdoor "Rock for Africa" extravaganza said Sunday that ticket sales, donations to a simultaneous nationwide fund-raising campaign and other revenue netted more than seven million kroner (\$700,000) for famine aid. The televised gala, with top names in Danish rock performing without pay in Copenhagen's Idrottsbane Stadion, has ended with most of the nearly 30,000 spectators, including 17-year-old Crown Prince Frederik, holding out against cold winds and drizzling rain. The phones in the headquarters of Denmark's largest bank kept ringing as Danes across the country phoned in donation pledges. Organisers said they hoped contributions would keep coming to bring the grand total to 10 million kroner (\$1 million).

Its opponents, led by right-wing politicians and business leaders, argued that the lack of clear authority would force more family disputes into the courts.

The new law recognises a wife as joint family head. She will be able to decide with her husband issues such as where they will live and which schools their children attend. She will be entitled to half of the family's wealth instead of a third in the event of a break-up. The law had the support of all four parties in the coalition government and most non-government parties and organisations.

The resort suffered a further blow when a sprawling seaside market place of restaurants, souvenir shops and banks was flooded by a tidal surge unleashed by the earthquake last Thursday.

Zhuatanejo's fishing-boat harbour was badly damaged, as was a major port facility at Manzanillo.

PEKING (R) — Chinese officials have announced plans to breed 10,000 pigeons in the centre of Peking on the grounds that the birds represent "peace and calm". The official Wen Hui Bao newspaper said Monday city officials planned to build pigeon houses on the roof of the Great Hall of the People to encourage the birds, shunned as pests in most world capitals, to breed around the vast Tiananmen Square. "Pigeons represent peace and calm," the paper said, adding the proposal was also intended to "promote the development of spiritual civilisation."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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THE TALE OF THE SEVEN OF DIAMONDS

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the Sunday column to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series we will go back to our weekly question and answer column. Both vulnerable. South deals.

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♥ Void
♦ AQ96
♣ AQJ10862

EAST
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♥ A75
♦ K7
♣ 754

SOUTH
♠ AJ
♥ KQJ10643
♦ 103
♣ K3

The bidding:
South West North East
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4 ♥ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Three of ♦.

The Seven of Diamonds was glowing with pride as he discussed his latest exploit. "A play of world championship caliber it was, even if I say so myself. Not the sort to make front-page headlines, perhaps, but its execution sets the player on a plateau above most of the rest." He had good reason to boast. The hand was dealt in a key match in a very important championship, and the result hung by a thread. The

Crowd watches as Mexican quake survivors are found

MEXICO CITY (Agencies) — Alive or dead? The crowd waited in silence staring at the mountain of rubble.

Slowly, almost tenderly, rescue workers cleared away the debris Sunday from a spot near the top of the heap that once had been the Nuevo Leon housing project, home for more than 1,300 people. The mayor's office said Sunday night approximately 2,000 people remain trapped in the rubble left by the earthquakes Thursday and Friday.

A body emerged. Long brown hair was the first thing the onlookers saw.

"Una mujer" — a woman — someone said softly. The diggers called for a cutting torch.

The crowd remained quiet. In the past 48 hours, only two of the hundreds trapped in the 14-story complex since Thursday's earthquake had been found alive. They hoped.

A stretcher was lifted to the top of the rubble, the woman eased onto it by her rescuers. Alive or dead? She was wrapped in a bla-

nknet but her face was not covered. As soon as the crane carrying the stretcher on steel cables swung from the debris with its precious cargo, the crowd knew.

Alive. She had been buried for more than three days and she had been freed from her concrete entombment.

Applause broke the silence and tears filled the eyes of the onlookers. "Viva" the cry went out. She lives.

No one knew her name but that was not important at the moment. All they knew was that somebody had survived, that somebody had been taken away in an ambulance for a change instead of a body bag. The mayor's office reported Sunday night that 1,952 people were dead.

Thousands are still missing throughout the city, hundreds in Nuevo Leon alone. The digging goes on and so does the hope.

And so would the sudden spells of expectant silences.

Along the main Paseo de la Reforma Sunday, rescue teams with specially trained dogs patrolled damaged buildings.

Their presence would freeze one of the most raucous streets in Latin America silently in its tracks.

Cars, trucks and buses would come to standstill, bumper to bumper. Ambulances would creep by, lights flashing but without sirens. Pedestrians seemed to tiptoe as if the slightest noise would spoil any chance of finding someone alive.

But time after time, the dogs would lose interest, hearing nothing and the gray clad rescue teams emerge from the rubble.

Elsewhere in the city, cranes gingerly hoisted toppled walls and cratered ceilings. Volunteers tracked the plaster and plate glasses looking all the while for signs of life.

"We are not cleaning up," said Miguel Figueroa, who runs a 30 foot (15-metre) crane. "What is essential is to get the bodies out and if possible see someone alive."

As rescue workers battled against time in Mexico City, the coastal city of Acapulco returned to its fun-loving ways.

This playground of the rich was unscathed by the earthquakes that rumbled beneath its beaches last week.

"We've forgotten that the quakes ever rumbled through here and we're back in a partying mood," Jeff Martin, 32, a tourist from San Francisco said as he sipped a pina colada in a crowded nightclub at the Holiday Inn Hotel.

Thursday's earthquake, which could have killed up to 20,000 people in Mexico City, according to U.S. embassy estimates, produced little more than shock waves in Acapulco.

The resort's high-rise luxury hotels swayed on their beachfront foundations and long-distance telephone links were cut. A few frantic tourists rushed to the airport but after officials reported no major structural damage or injuries, holidaymakers were back strolling along the sparkling beaches, windsurfing in the picturesque bay and filling the dance floors of Acapulco's glittering discotheques.